Statement

Norms for Delivery of Mail

Category of Mail	Norms for delivery
Local	D+1 Next day after day of posting.
Within the district	D+2 Within 48 hrs after day of posting
Within the State	D+2 to D+3 Within 48 to 72 hrs after the day of posting
Mail for other States	D+3 to D+5 Depending on the distance involved and transport link available.
	Mail to from branch post offices take a day more.
First class mail between metro cities (Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangaluru)	D+2 to D+3 Within 48 to 72 hrs after the day of posting
First class mail between State Capitals and Delhi	D+2 to D+3 Within 48 to 72 hrs after the day of posting
Registered mail	1 to 2 days more than ordinary mail, depending on the distance and number of points of handling en route.
Money Order	1 to 2 days more than ordinary mail, depending on the distance and number of points of handling en route.

- These norms apply to normal areas. Mails relating to hilly, tribal and remote areas will take longer, depending on local conditions of specific areas. These broad norms are subject to transport, mail carrying trains, aeroplanes, buses and other means of transmission maintaining their prescribed schedules. Also, the time indicated does not include holiday/Sunday.
- These norms apply to mails that are booked at counters before cut-off timing or are posted in letter boxes before the last hour of clearance for the day. The cut-off timing are fixed in a manner that all the articles booked till the final cut-off time is included in the last dispatch. Cut-off time indicates that articles booked upto that time only can be included in the current day's dispatch. Articles can still be booked after the cut-off time, but would be included in the next day's dispatch.

Proposal received from Government of Madhya Pradesh

†1554. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(a) whether proposal for Direct Archaeological Museum, Shahdol; Mella, Rani Durgawati Museam, Jabalpur, Yashodharaman Museum, Mandsore, and Central Museum, Indore, has been received from Government of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action being taken thereon and until when it should be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted proposals for financial assistance in respect of District Archaeological Museum at Shahdol, District Archaeological Museum at Mandla, Rani Durgawati Museum at Jabalpur, Yashodharaman Archaeology Museum at Mandsour and Central Museum, of Indore under the scheme for 'Setting Up, Promotion & Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums'. Upon scrutiny, the applications were found to be deficient with respect to certain mandatory requirements. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has been requested to furnish the same.

Smuggling of Indian artefacts

1555. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of smuggling of Indian artefacts, which are mostly stolen from archaeological sites, have been increasing in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government proposed to set up antiques data base in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has set up any Committee of experts of Culture and Archaeology for preparation of antiques data base in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; State-wise; and

(f) the time fixed by the Government to complete the said project in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Archaeological Survey of India has launched "National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities" (NMMA) on 19th March, 2007 which has the mandate of documenting archaeological resources, including antiquities, throughout the country.

(d) and (e) The NMMA has set up State Level Implementation Committees (SLIC) in about 20 States and in the remaining setting up of SLICs is in the Government officials. They, with the help of a large number of documentation centres across the country are required to prepare data base of monuments and antiquities.